



PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of

Docket No: Q63336

Junichi TSUJI

Appln. No.: 09/802,895

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 6637

Examiner: James A. THOMPSON

Filed: March 12, 2001

For: IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE AND PRINTER HAVING THE SAME

SUBMISSION OF APPEAL BRIEF

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

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Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, Appellant submits the following:

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I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest in this Appeal is Fuji Photo Film Co., Ltd. Of Japan, the assignee. The assignment was previously submitted and was recorded on March 12, 2001 at Reel 011615, Frame 0917.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

To the knowledge and belief of Appellant, the Assignee, and the Appellant's legal representative, there are no other appeals or interferences before the Board of Appeals and Interferences that will directly affect or be affected by the Board's decision in the instant Appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-9 and 14-26 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-2 and 14-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell (U.S. Patent No. 5,276,472; hereinafter “Bell”) in view of Nakamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,684,262; hereinafter “Nakamura”).

Claims 3, 9, 16 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Leveque (U.S. Patent No. 5,495,468; hereinafter “Leveque”).

Claims 17-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Kinoshita (U.S. Patent No. 4,983,996; hereinafter “Kinoshita”).

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Hatada (U.S. Patent No. 4,270,853; hereinafter “Hatada”).

Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Bernardi (U.S. Patent No. 5,692,225; hereinafter “Bernardi”).

Claim 23 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Kinoshita.

Claim 8 and 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Spies (U.S. Patent No. 6,035,273; hereinafter “Spies”).

No other ground of rejection or objection is currently pending.

A copy of the claims on appeal is set forth in the attached Appendix.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the claims were submitted in an Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed January 13, 2005 in response to the Non-final Office Action dated October 15, 2004. A Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 was filed September 14, 2005 in response to the Final Office Action dated June 14, 2005. All amendments are believed to have been previously entered and made of record. In the Advisory Action dated November 3, 2005, the Examiner states that the reply filed September 14, 2005, has been considered but did not place the application in a condition for allowance.

A copy of the claims on appeal is set forth in an attached Appendix.

V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Appellant's invention as recited in for example, independent claims 1, 9, 14, and 26 are related to image processing devices and printers for printing an image to recording material according to image data.

In the past, speech data associated with image data is retrieved from a memory and converted into a bar code. The bar code is consequently printed together with an image. See page 1, lines 25-28. The bar code is then read with a reading pen or other suitable reader. See page 1, line 29 to page 2, line 2. However, the speech data used is original speech recorded by a user which is difficult to understand aurally. Also, users may be hesitant to enclose their voice data along with image data. See page 2, lines 3-10. Therefore, an exemplary embodiment of the present invention addresses these exemplary problems by providing image processing devices and printers capable of outputting speech data together with image data in a reliably recognizable manner. See page 2, lines 12-16.

Claim 1

An image processing device (e.g. Fig. 1, element 18) for processing image data, comprising a speech data input unit (e.g. Fig. 1, element 20) for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech (see page 6, lines 1-6); a voice tone convertor (e.g. Fig. 1, element 21) for subjecting said speech data to tone conversion (see page 6, lines 8-10); and a speech data output unit (e.g. Fig. 1, element 22) for outputting said tone converted speech data in association with said image data (see page 7, lines 5-7; see also Fig. 5A: page 10, lines 4-6).

Claim 9

An image processing device (e.g. Fig. 1, element 18) for processing image data, comprising a speech data input unit (e.g. Fig. 1, element 20) for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech (see page 6, lines 1-6); a voice tone convertor (e.g. Fig. 1, element 21) for generating conversion data for tone conversion control (see page 6, lines 8-10); and a speech data output unit (e.g. Fig. 1, element 22) for outputting a combination of said speech data and said conversion data in association with said image data (see page 7, lines 5-7; see also Fig. 5B: page 7, lines 6-10).

Claim 14

A printer (e.g. Fig. 4, element 41) for printing an image to recording material according to image data, comprising a speech data input unit (e.g. Fig. 4, element 20) for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech (see page 6, lines 1-6); a voice tone convertor (e.g. Fig. 4, element 21) for subjecting said speech data to tone conversion (see page 6, lines 8-10); and a speech data recorder (e.g. Fig. 4, element 40) for recording said tone converted speech data to said recording material in association with said image (see page 9, lines 5-14; see also Fig. 5A; page 10, lines 4-6).

Claim 26

A printer (e.g. Fig. 4, element 41) for printing an image to recording material according to image data, comprising a speech data input unit (e.g. Fig. 4, element 20) for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech (see page 6, lines 1-6); a voice tone convertor (e.g. Fig. 4, element 21) for generating conversion data for tone conversion control (see

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page 6, lines 8-10); and a speech data recorder (e.g. Fig. 4, element 40) for recording a combination of said speech data and said conversion data to said recording material in association with said image(see page 9, lines 5-14; see also Fig. 5B; page 7, lines 6-10).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

1. Claims 1-2 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura.
2. Claims 3, 9, 16 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Leveque.
3. Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Kinoshita.
4. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Hatada.
5. Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Bernardi.
6. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi, and Kinoshita.
7. Claims 8 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Spies.

VII. ARGUMENT

I. Claims 1-2 and 14-15 are patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura

As noted above, claims 1-2 and 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura.

Bell describes a film camera capable of recording audio. A digital audio signal is recorded on a magnetic layer formed on a film. At a later time, the digital audio signal is read and converted to binary code and imprinted on a photoprint. See Abstract.

Nakamura describes a karaoke system including a tone converter for converting an inputted voice signal from a microphone into a voice signal having a tone spaced a given pitch from the tone of the inputted voice signal. See Abstract. A voice signal can be converted to three different tones such as a fixed mode, a sound level control mode and a genre-dependent control mode to add effects to a singer's voice. See col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line 7.

Claim 1

The Examiner cites microphone 17 of Bell for teaching "a speech data input unit for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech." The Examiner states that Bell does not disclose a voice tone convertor as further recited in claim 1, and cites tone convertor 16 of Nakamura to cure the deficiency.

However, the voice tone converter of claim 1, subjects speech data, which is associated with an image, to tone conversion. The speech data of Namakura has no relationship to an image but is purely voice data for a karaoke machine. Consequently, the combination of Nakamura

with Bell does not disclose the claimed voice tone convertor which subjects the speech data associated with an image to tone conversion.

Moreover, the tone conversion of Nakamura is not desired in Bell. In particular, Nakamura discloses three modes of tone conversion. A first mode is a fixed mode which converts a supplied digital audio signal into a digital audio signal that is a preset pitch lower than the supplied digital audio signal. See col. 4, line 65 to col. 5, line 1; col. 5, lines 17-19. The second mode is sound level control mode for controlling a tone controller to convert the supplied digital audio signal depending on the level of the voice signal picked up by a microphone. Col. 5, lines 1-4; col. 6, lines 9-16. The third mode is a genre-dependent control mode for controlling the tone controller to convert the supplied digital audio signal depending on the genre of the music piece that is reproduced. See col. 5, lines 4-7. The different modes result in a unison effect of voice data as if two singers were singing although only one singer is singing.

Consequently, the tone conversion performed in Nakamura is not desired in Bell. In particular, a unison effect as if two singers were singing, which is a desired in the karaoke system of Nakamura, is not desired for the photographic film of Bell.

Further, tone converter 16 of Nakamura pertains to a karaoke machine and not to a photographic film system as described in Bell. Contrary to the Examiner's contention, the references are not each related to the same field of endeavor. The references are further not directed to common objects. Where Bell seeks to relate audio and images in a rudimentary way using a simple bar code, Nakamura relates to instrumentation and pitch adjustment. To the extent both references discuss audio processing, their objects differ in a fundamental way such

that the processing complexities in Nakamura are wholly inappropriate for the bar scanning of Bell.

Claim 1 further recites “a speech data output unit for outputting said tone-converted speech data in association with said image data.” The Examiner asserts that printer 43 of Bell teaches the claimed speech data output unit. However, printer 43 merely prints bar code information without regard to tone-conversion. See col. 5, lines 35-44. Further, there is no teaching or suggestion in the Bell reference that printer 43 should be modified to output tone-converted speech data. In particular, Bell is not concerned with tone-converted speech data, let alone a speech data output unit for outputting tone-converted speech data in association with said image data. Consequently, the Examiner is adding additional components to the system of Bell when such a modification is not taught or suggested.

On page 4 of the Advisory Action of November 3, 2005, the Examiner asserts that “it is not required that the suggestion to combine come from the primary reference.” Contrary to the Examiner’s assertion, in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. MPEP 2142. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in either Bell or Nakamura of combining the tone conversion of Nakamura with the printer of Bell.

Further, assuming *arguendo* Nakamura teaches the claimed tone convertor, the combination of Nakamura with Bell is not obvious and is merely a result of impermissible hindsight. In particular, modifying the photographic film system of Bell to include the tone

converter of Nakamura, would require a substantial modification of the principle of operation of Bell.

In supporting the Examiner's obviousness argument, the Examiner asserts that obviousness is not based on whether the feature of the secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference. Further, on page 3 of the Advisory Action of November 3, 2005, the Examiner asserts that although Nakamura has additional function and complicated features, the basic tone conversion functions can be implemented into the Bell reference.

However, Appellant submits that in determining obviousness the Examiner should look at the references **as a whole** as to what they would teach or suggest to one of skill in the art. MPEP 2145. The references must be read as a whole and consideration must be given where the references diverge and teach away from the claimed invention. *Akzo N.V. v. U.S. International*, 808 F.2d 1471, 1481 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Moreover, the Examiner cannot pick and choose among individual parts of assorted prior art references as a mosaic to recreate a facsimile of the claimed invention. *Id.*

In this case, Appellant submits that the speech data of an exemplary embodiment of the present invention is associated with image data. There is no teaching or suggestion that the tone converted voice signals of Nakamura are to be associated with an image. In particular, a voice signal of Nakamura is converted so as to impart a unison effect to an inputted voice signal to provide a sophisticated audio effect as if a plurality of people were singing (col. 2, lines 30-37), resulting in a more sophisticated karaoke system. The tone convertor of Nakamura has a specific

purpose of combining multiple sources of sound, including the original voice, a shifted version of that voice and instrumental play back. Thus, the output is not of the tone converted speech signal, but a composite of several audio sounds. The Examiner cannot merely pick the individual signal out of Nakamura for purposes of making the rejection. Further, the Examiner cannot merely pick the basic tone conversion function of Nakamura. To do so is purely an exercise in hindsight reconstruction.

On the other hand, the inclusion of the composite aural information in Nakamura bears no relation to the present invention, thereby rendering it non-analogous art. Given the processing of the magnetic film strip in Bell, one skilled in the art would not have contemplated the extensive process of Nakamura, much of which would likely not be retained on reproduction.

In the Advisory Action of November 3, 2005 (see page 3), the Examiner asserts that the tone conversion in a karaoke system as disclosed in Nakamura is simply an example of intended use and that the tone conversion does not have to be used in a karaoke system. However, contrary to the Examiner's assertions, Nakamura is directed to a karaoke system and Nakamura does not teach or suggest otherwise. Therefore, the Examiner's assertion is clearly a result of impermissible hindsight.

As discussed above, Nakamura discloses three modes of tone conversion resulting in a unison effect of voice data as if two singers were singing although only one singer is singing.

However, there is no teaching or suggestion that the tone conversion disclosed in Nakamura is desired in Bell. Further, contrary to the Examiner's assertions, it is unlikely that the

genre (e.g. pop, rock and roll, or jazz) of a musical piece to be played on the karaoke system disclosed in Nakamura would be desired in the camera system of Bell.

Moreover, the Examiner's assertion that the mere insertion of an additional audio process step is trivial in the art and would not require any substantial modification of the operation of Bell, is improper. For example, the Nakamura patent alone, goes into depth regarding the three methods of modifying a voice signal, which evidences that the insertion of an additional audio process is not trivial. Further, the Examiner's rationale on page 4 to page 5 of the Advisory Action of November 3, 2005, in which the Examiner explains that the tone converter can be placed after an analog amplifier, appears to be based purely on the Examiner's personal reasoning.

For at least the above reasons, claim 1 and its dependent claims should be deemed patentable. Since claim 14 recites similar subject matter, claim 14 and its dependent claims should also be deemed patentable. To the extent that independent claims 9, 14, and 26 and their dependent claims recite similar subject matter, they should also be deemed patentable for the same reasons.

II. Claims 3, 9, 16 and 26 are patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Leveque

Claims 3, 9, 16 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Leveque.

Claims 3 and 16

Claim 3 recites that “the voice tone convertor generates conversion data for tone conversion control, and sends said conversion data to said speech data output unit.” The Examiner concedes that the combination of Bell and Nakamura does not disclose that the voice tone convertor sends conversion data to a speech data output unit, wherein the tone converted speech includes speech data prior to conversion and the conversion data, and cites Leveque (col. 5, lines 14-17; col. 5, lines 25-29; col. 5, lines 52-55) to cure the deficiency. In particular, the Examiner asserts that Bell teaches outputting speech data in a digital bar code form via a printer, that Nakamura discloses performing tone conversion on speech data before outputting, and that Leveque teaches adding conversion data to the sound before the data is output. Further, the Examiner asserts that simply adding small audio processing steps to the processing of an audio signal before output is a trivial matter for one of ordinary skill in the art.

Leveque discloses a system for transmitting a plurality of waveforms over a single communications channel using Lincompex. See Field of the Invention. The respective column and lines of Leveque cited by the Examiner describe the operation of Lincompex compressors which provide compressed voice signals and control tones. Both sets of data comprise data processed in some manner and thus there is no speech data prior to conversion as claimed. Moreover, although the compressed voice signals and control tones are output to a transmission medium, a transmission medium is not the printer 43 (speech data output unit) as originally cited by the Examiner.

As indicated above, modifications to audio processing steps is not a trivial matter, and as evidenced by Nakamura, col. 4, line 50 to col. 6, line 43, can require complex processing on voice signals. Consequently, modifying the prior art to include the steps of Nakamura would require a substantial modification of the operation of the elements of Leveque and Bell.

Assuming *arguendo*, Leveque teaches conversion data, there is no teaching or suggestion that the conversion data of Leveque should be output to the printer 43 (speech data output unit as cited by the Examiner) of Bell. In particular, it is unclear how the conversion data of Leveque which is transmitted over a communications channel using Lincomplex would be printed on printer 43. It appears that the Examiner's reasoning is merely a result of impermissible hindsight.

Moreover, merely because Nakamura desires compensation for tone variation and Leveque desires saving conversion data in a different frequency band than audio data, would not motivate one of skill in the art to modify the printer of Bell as suggested by the Examiner.

For at least the above reasons, claim 3 should be deemed patentable. Since claim 16 recites similar elements, it should also be deemed patentable for the same reasons. Since claims 9 and 26 recite similar elements, they should also be deemed patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 3.

III. Claims 17-18 are patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Kinoshita

Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Kinoshita. Claims 17 and 18 should be deemed patentable by virtue of their

dependency to claim 14 for the reasons set forth above. Moreover, Kinoshita does not cure the deficiencies of Bell and Nakamura.

IV. Claim 19 is patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Hatada

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Hatada.

Claim 19 recites that “the recording material includes a magnetic recording region, and said speech data recorder magnetically records said speech data.” The Examiner states that neither Bell nor Nakamura teaches the elements of claim 19 and cites Hatada to cure the deficiency.

As discussed above, in determining obviousness, the Examiner must look at the references in their entirety. MPEP 2145. The references must be read as a whole and consideration must be given where the references diverge and teach away from the claimed invention. In addition, the Examiner cannot pick and choose among individual parts of assorted prior art references as a mosaic to recreate a facsimile of the claimed invention.

Assuming *arguendo* Hatada teaches the elements of claim 19, Hatada teaches away from Bell. In particular, Hatada discloses an instant-printing film and camera. As discussed in Bell (col. 1, lines 15-42; col. 1, line 65 to col. 2, line 7) the deficiencies of the Hatada reference are identified. In particular, “a problem with the photographic film systems described above is that the magnetic strips, if kept integral with the prints, are limited to use with instant print cameras.” Consequently, Bell teaches away from the cameras disclosed in Hatada. Therefore, the combination of Hatada with Bell and Nakamura is not obvious.

On page 7 of the Advisory Action of November 3, 2005, the Examiner asserts that the quote from Bell relates to a problem with “the photographic film systems *described above*” and that the photographic systems referred to by Bell are particular photographic systems taught in specific US patents as discussed in col. 1, lines 12-17 of Bell.

However, col. 1, lines 12-17 of Bell specifically identifies the Hatada reference (USP 4,270,853) and its deficiencies. See also col. 1, lines 29-42. Moreover, the Bell reference itself states that “a problem with the photographic film systems described above is that the magnetic strips, if kept integral with the prints, are limited to use with instant print cameras.” Therefore, upon viewing Bell and its description of Hatada, Hatada appears to teach away from Bell.

For at least the above reasons, claim 19 should be deemed patentable.

V. Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 are patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Bernardi

Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura and Bernardi. Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 should be deemed patentable by virtue of their dependency to claims 1 and 14 for the reasons set forth above. Moreover, Bernardi does not cure the deficiencies of Bell and Nakamura.

In addition, as discussed on pages 1-2 of the specification as originally filed, in Bernardi, the speech data associated with the image data is retrieved from a memory card or other recording medium and is converted to a bar code. In playing back speech data, the bar code is read from a print together with a bar code. However, a shortcoming of the Bernardi reference is that because the speech is original as recorded by a user, it is difficult to understand aurally.

Since Bernardi is contrary to the present invention, it is unlikely that one of ordinary skill in the art would combine the Bernardi reference with Bell and Nakamura in order to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 4-7, 20-22 and 24 should be deemed patentable by virtue of their dependency to claims 1 and 14 for the reasons set forth above. Moreover, Bernardi does not cure the deficiencies of Bell and Nakamura.

VI. Claim 23 is patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Kinoshita

Claim 23 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Kinoshita. Claim 23 should be deemed patentable for the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 17. Moreover, Kinoshita does not cure the deficiencies of Bell, Nakamura and Bernardi.

VII. Claims 8 and 25 are patentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Spies

Claims 8 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bell in view of Nakamura, Bernardi and Spies. Claims 8 and 25 should be deemed patentable by virtue of their dependency to claims 1 and 14 for the reasons set forth above. Moreover, Spies does not cure the deficiencies of Bell, Nakamura and Bernardi.

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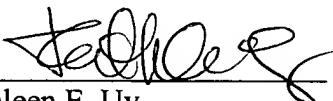
Attorney Docket No.: Q63336

VIII. CONCLUSION

Unless a check is submitted herewith for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §41.37(a) and 1.17(c), please charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CLAIMS APPENDIX

CLAIMS 1-9 and 14-26 ON APPEAL:

1. An image processing device for processing image data, comprising:
a speech data input unit for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech;
a voice tone convertor for subjecting said speech data to tone conversion; and
a speech data output unit for outputting said tone converted speech data in association with said image data.
2. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein said voice tone convertor stores plural sets of tone mode information;
further comprising a voice tone selector for selecting one of said plural sets of said tone mode information, wherein said voice tone convertor subjects said speech data to tone conversion according to said selected tone mode information.
3. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, wherein said voice tone convertor generates conversion data for tone conversion control, and sends said conversion data to said speech data output unit;
wherein said tone converted speech data is constituted by said speech data before being converted and said conversion data.

4. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, further comprising a text data output unit for outputting text data in association with said image data, said text data representing text.

5. An image processing device as defined in claim 4, further comprising a speech/text convertor for converting said speech data from said speech data input unit into said text data.

6. An image processing device as defined in claim 4, further comprising a text data input unit, externally operable, for inputting said text data.

7. An image processing device as defined in claim 4, wherein said text data includes at least one of a letter, a number and a sign.

8. An image processing device as defined in claim 1, further comprising:
a text data input unit for inputting text data associated with said image data for representing text;

a text/speech convertor for converting said text data into speech data, and sending said speech data to said speech data output unit.

9. An image processing device for processing image data, comprising:
a speech data input unit for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech;

a voice tone convertor for generating conversion data for tone conversion control; and
a speech data output unit for outputting a combination of said speech data and said conversion data in association with said image data.

10. (canceled).

11. (canceled).

12. (canceled).

13. (canceled).

14. A printer for printing an image to recording material according to image data, comprising:

a speech data input unit for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech;

a voice tone convertor for subjecting said speech data to tone conversion; and

a speech data recorder for recording said tone converted speech data to said recording material in association with said image.

15. A printer as defined in claim 14, wherein said voice tone convertor stores plural sets of tone mode information;

further comprising a voice tone selector for selecting one of said plural sets of said tone mode information, wherein said voice tone convertor subjects said speech data to tone conversion according to said selected tone mode information.

16. A printer as defined in claim 14, wherein said voice tone convertor generates conversion data for tone conversion control, and sends said conversion data to said speech data recorder;

wherein said tone converted speech data is constituted by said speech data before being converted and said conversion data.

17. A printer as defined in claim 14, wherein said recording material is photosensitive material;

further comprising an image forming unit for optically printing said image to said recording material, said image forming unit further constituting said speech data recorder optically to print said speech data.

18. A printer as defined in claim 17, wherein said image forming unit prints said speech data in a bar code form.

19. A printer as defined in claim 14, wherein said recording material includes a magnetic recording region, and said speech data recorder magnetically records said speech data.

20. A printer as defined in claim 14, further comprising:

a speech/text convertor for converting said speech data from said speech data input unit into text data for representing text; and

a text data recorder for recording said text data to said recording material in association with said image.

21. A printer as defined in claim 14, further comprising:

a text data input unit, externally operable, for inputting text data for representing text; and

a text data recorder for recording said text data to said recording material in association with said image.

22. A printer as defined in claim 21, wherein said text data includes at least one of a letter, a number and a sign.

23. A printer as defined in claim 21, wherein said recording material is photosensitive material;

further comprising an image forming unit for optically printing said image to said recording material, said image forming unit further constituting said text data recorder optically to print said text data.

24. A printer as defined in claim 21, wherein said text data recorder prints said text data by use of ink, toner or dye.

25. A printer as defined in claim 14, further comprising:
a text data input unit for inputting text data associated with said image data for representing text;
a text/speech convertor for converting said text data into speech data, and sending said speech data to said speech data recorder.

26. A printer for printing an image to recording material according to image data, comprising:

a speech data input unit for inputting speech data associated with said image data for representing speech;
a voice tone convertor for generating conversion data for tone conversion control; and
a speech data recorder for recording a combination of said speech data and said conversion data to said recording material in association with said image.

27. (canceled).

28. (canceled).

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37
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29. (canceled).

30. (canceled).

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37
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EVIDENCE APPENDIX:

None.

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37
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RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None.